

IRTS Radio News Bulletin Sunday May 6th 2007

Michael Gallagher EI3CK: Silent Key

The Mayo Radio Experimenters Network is sad to announce the passing of Fr. Michael Gallagher, EI3CK after a short illness. Michael was originally from Achill, Co. Mayo and is predeceased by his brother Dennis a former Government Minister.

Fr Michael was ordained on April the 10th 1955 in Carlow Cathedral and was appointed to Ogoja diocese in Nigeria. He was stationed in Lyamoyong where he was involved in the building of St. Brendan's school. He also worked in Nkalagu and while stationed there he contracted TB meningitis and was invalided home to Ireland in 1966. After two years of treatment and convalescence Michael took up a position in St Peters in the Glasgow archdiocese and ministered there from October 1968 to March 1969. He then moved to the diocese of Motherwell in Scotland and served in St Brides parish Cambuslang and St Leonards in East Kilbride. From there he went to St Davids parish, Airdrie where he served from 1984 until his retirement in September 2004. He held the UK callsign GM3AHB.

Fr. Michael joined the Mayo Radio Experimenters Network in the late 1990s shortly after the club was formed. He was a regular attendee at meetings and club events and will be sadly missed by his large circle of friends. His death brings to two, the number of members of the Mayo REN to pass on in the last few months. Don Gibbons EI5IA, passed away in November 2006.

Michael is survived by his sisters Mary and Sr. Kathleen, by his brothers Eoin, Brendan and Terry and by his sisters-in-law Maureen, Diane, Joan and Mary.

Our deepest sympathy to his family and friends. May he rest in peace.

Date Announced for Mayo Rally 2007

Rally Director Padraic Baynes, EI9JA, told the May meeting of the club that the date of November 18 had been set for the 2007 Rally. The venue, the Belmont Hotel, Knock, remains same as other years and full details will be announced later.

Emcomm party on the air

The second IARU Emcomm party on the air took place on Saturday last the 5th of May. Three AREN stations using callsigns from the EI0RENE sequence were on the air. Band conditions on 7, 14 and 21 MHz were good and the weather ideal for the portable operations. Logs are being studied at present and a report will be posted on the AREN Website.

Galtee Walking Festival

There are just 4 weeks to go to the 2 days of activity in the Galtees on the Saturday and Sunday of the June Bank Holiday weekend. John Ronan EI7IG is event Coordinator and he's is being assisted by John EI2JB and other members of the Tipperary Amateur radio Group. Preparations are at an advanced stage but there are still radio positions to be filled on Saturday and on Sunday. Newcomers are welcome and training will be provided by AREN each morning. Please contact John EI7IG on 086 8167310 or John EI2JB at QTHR

Ladies Mini Marathon

The 2007 Flora Ladies Mini Marathon takes place on Bank Holiday Monday the 4th of June at 3.00 pm. It starts from Fitzwilliam Square, and finishes in Stephens Green Dublin 2. Sadly this year's event will happen without the familiar voice of Donnchadh O'Shea who traditionally operated the net control station. This year's public service event will be dedicated to his memory. The co-ordinator for the event again this year will be George Adjaye who may be contacted by phone on 086 2586103 or Fax 01 4908546 or email "george_adjayeg at dcu.ie".

Comeragh Cycle Race

There are just 8 weeks to go to the national under 23 road racing championship in Waterford on the 1st of July. Richie EI9HR is event Co-ordinator and he is being assisted by John EI8JA. This year's race, though run over essentially the same route as last year will be on a greater scale with over 160 riders taking part. The Civil Defence have come on board this year to help with marshalling and RTE will be filming the event. AREN will provide the communications for safe traffic management and accident reporting. There will be more radio reporting points and mobile stations than last year so more radio operators are required. Again newcomers are welcome and training will be provided on the morning of the race. This is an excellent opportunity for operators to put their radio skills to good use in a very enjoyable and rewarding way for the benefit of the Community. All operators

irrespective of experience are welcome.

Please contact Richie on mobile 085-1465465 or evenings on 051-854315. You can also contact Richie by e-mail at "ei9hr at yahoo dot com".

2 Metre Counties Contest

Thanks to all the participants of the recent 2 metre counties contest. If you or your club participated, please send logs to EI8IU at QTHR or email to "contests at irts dot ie" by the 9th of May.

International Marconi Day

On the recent International Marconi Day, EI0MAR operated from the Radio Museum in the Martello tower in Howth as a special award station. As befits the event and the location, most contacts were on CW. There were many visitors in the afternoon. The good weather brought a lot of people out and Howth was buzzing. Tony (EI5EM), Joe (EI4FV), Eamonn (EI2CHB), Mike (EI2DJ) Conor (EI5GAB) and Joe (EI4JA) attended.

Tony (EI5EM) handed over an Elecraft KX-1 transceiver and audio amplifier that he had built to Joe Deery, EI4JA. Joe is a blind operator and the KX-1 has a nice optional feature that relays whatever appears on the screen to the operator in CW. As Joe is an avid CW operator this is of great assistance to him.

Mid Ulster Amateur Radio Club (GI3CFW)

The Mid Ulster Amateur Radio Club Rally will take place on Sunday the 20th of May 2007 at the Discovery Centre, Oxford Island, Lough Neagh, Lurgan. Doors open at mid-day and talk-in is on 145.525 MHz.

Limerick Radio Club

The next meeting will take place on Thursday the 10th of May at 7 p.m. at Limerick Institute of Technology.

Limerick Radio Club has been invited by the Foynes Flying-Boat Museum to operate a special Amateur Radio Station in conjunction with the commemorative Transatlantic

Re-Enactment Flight 1937 from Newfoundland Canada to Foynes Ireland. A special call-sign has been allocated to the station EI-70-FOY. The station will be on the air from the 6th to the 8th of July 2007. On HF the station will operate from 80 to 10 metres. It will also operate on VHF / UHF using the EI70FOY call-sign.

A special QSL card, commemorating the Re-Enactment Flight, will be sent to all stations worked over the three-day event. All QSL cards should be sent to the Club's QSL Manager Alan Cronin EI8EM at QTHR.

Limerick Radio Club can be contacted at "ei4lrc at eircom dot net" or at www.qsl.net/ei4lrc

South Eastern Amateur Radio Group

Going forward and starting from Monday the 28th of May, meetings of South Eastern Amateur Radio Group will take place on the last Monday of each month instead of last Wednesdays. The move has been decided in order to facilitate a number of members who are unable to attend on Wednesdays.

The committee meetings will also take place on the first Monday of each month and the next committee meeting will take place on Monday the 7th of May.

Theory Examination

The next Theory Examination for the Experimenters Licence will be held on Thursday the 28th of June next. Places for the examination are limited and will be allocated on a "first come first served" basis. In order to reserve a place for the exam, intending candidates should forward the appropriate fee to Seán Nolan EI7CD, 12 Little Meadow, Pottery Road Dunlaoghaire, Co. Dublin. The fee is 50 Euro or 25 Euro for full time registered students, those who are retired, are unemployed or have a disability. In addition to the exam centre at the ComReg offices in Dublin, it has now been decided with the agreement of ComReg that an examination should be held on the same date and with the same paper at the Community Centre, Carrigtwohill, Co. Cork. This is to facilitate those at present attending classes for the experimenter licence examination in Cork and Waterford."

The closing date for the examination is the 16th of June and it will be strictly adhered to. Sean EI7CD's address again is 12 Little Meadow, Pottery Road, Dunlaoghaire, Co. Dublin and it can be found in the call book section of the IRTS website at www.irts.ie Sean's e-mail address for further enquiries is "ei7cd at gofree dot indigo dot ie".

Items for inclusion in next weeks Radio News should be forwarded to Mark Wall, EI7IS at QTHR or by phone to 051-853806 or 087-6302026. Items for the radio news can also be faxed to 087 5 6302026. News should be submitted via e-mail to “news at irts dot ie” for automatic forwarding to both the radio and printed news services. Please note that items for the radio news should reach the editor no later than midday on Friday in order to be guaranteed inclusion in the following Sunday’s bulletin.

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